Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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USMISSION BERLIN

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TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (NIXON, RICHARD M.) UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY, THURSDAY, JUNE 27

1. THE VISIT: PRESS COVERAGE WARMER AND LONGER THAN IN 1972. PRAVDA AND SOVETSKAYA ROSSIAY TODAY RAN EIGHT ITEMS ON THE PRESIDENTIAL ARRIVAL AND SOVIET-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AMERICAN COOPERATION, MORE THAN DOUBLE THE SPACE

ALLOTTED IN 1972. (COVERAGE OF THE U.S. IN TODAY'S PRESS IS NOT MUCH HEAVIER THAN IT HAS BEEN IN RECENT WEEKS; BUT IT IS MORE POSITIVE.) THE PRESIDENT'S BIOGRAPHY IN PRAVDA (PAGE ONE WITH PICTURE) SKIMPS THE FORMAL RECORD IN FAVOR OF EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON THE SUCCESSES ACHIEVED IN SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND PAYS HOMAGE TO THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION. PRAVDA HOPES THAT THE CURRENT SUMMIT WILL BECOME A LANDMARK ON THE ROAD TO BETTER SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

- 2. PRAVDA COMMENTARY ON SUMMIT. IN A BY-LINED COMMENTARY, PRAVDA SEES THE VALUE OF SOVIET-AMERICAN SUMMITS IN THEIR USEFULNESS FOR CONSULTATION ON MAJOR ISSUES; THE PIECE MAKES NO MENTION OF AGREEMENTS SIGNED AT THE SUMMIT. IN STANDARD FASHION PRAVDA NOTES THAT DETENTE IS ACCEPTED BY MOST AMERICANS AND THAT U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS ARE NOW OUTSIDE THE TRADITIONAL INTER-PARTY STRUGGLE IN THE U.S. EVEN THE U.S. COMMUNIST PARTY IS CITED ON THE BENEFITS OF SUMMITS. THE ENEMIES OF DETENTE ARE STILL ACTIVE (PRAVDA NAMES JACKSON AND BUCKLEY), BUT THE POLITICAL CLIMATE IS NOT IN THEIR FAVOR.
- 3. SOVIET-AMERICAN BUSINESS COOPERATION. PRAVDA REPORTS THE SIGNATURE YESTERDAY OF SEPARATE CONTRACTS BETWEEN THE COCA-COLA CORPORATION AND BURROUGHTS CORPORATION AND THE STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (GKNT) IN THE FIELDS OF FOOD PROCESSING AND COMPUTERS. SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA PRESENTS FAVORABLE COMMENTARIES ON THE PROSPECTS OF SOVIET-AMERICAN TRADE BY THREE LEADING PARTICIPANTS IN THE MOSCOW BUSINESS CONFERENCE JOINTLY SPONSORED BY THE GKNT AND THE STANFORD RESEARCH INSTITUTE.
- 4. "HERO-CITY" MINSK. MINSK HAS BEEN AWARDED THE TITLE OF "HERO CITY" ON THE EVE OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JULY 3 LIBERATION OF THE CITY. MINSK JOINS MOSCOW, LENINGRAD, STALINGRAD, ODESSA AND MOST RECENTLY NOVOROSSIYSK AND KHERSON AS HERO CITIES. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CEREMONIES AND SPEECHES, PROBABLY INCLUDING ONE BY AT LEAST A CANDIDATE MEMBER OF THE POLITBURO WILL MARK THE OCCASION.

5. MIDDLE EAST. PRAVDA RUNS AN UPBEAT REPORT FROM DAMASCUS WELCOMING THE COMPLETION OF DISENGAGEMENT. IT NOTES THE IMPORTANCE OF AN EARLY REACTIVATION OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE FOR THE RESOLUTION OF "ALL QUES-

TIONS" OF A ME SETTLEMENT. AN ACCOMPANYING TASS PIECE FROM WASHINGTON REGISTERS DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S SUPPORT FOR MILITARY AID TO ISRAEL.

6. BERLIN. PRAVDA CARRIES A CHARGE BY AN EAST GERMAN COMMUNIST OFFICIAL THAT THE FRG LAW ON ESTABLISHING THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY IN WEST BERLIN VIOLATES THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREMENT AND IS AIMED AT UPSETTING THE NORMALIZATIONOF FRG-GDR RELATIONS.STOESSEL

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